

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12
EUR-12 NEA-11 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00
OMB-01 ABF-01 DOE-15 SOE-02 OIC-02 /121 W
-----046881 270157Z /73

R 261852Z JUN 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1360

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 09716

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP EAID

SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: COUNTRY AND INTER-
COUNTRY PROGRAMMING AND PROJECTS (AGENDA ITEM 16)

PART 1 OF 3

SUMMARY: OVER 60 INTERVENTIONS WERE MADE AS PROGRAM
TRENDS AND SPECIFIC PROGRAM PROPOSALS WERE REVIEWED.
TWELVE COUNTRY PROGRAMS AND ONE GLOBAL PROJECT WERE
FINALLY APPROVED. END SUMMARY.

1. WHILE COUNCIL DEVOTED TWO FULL DAYS OF DISCUSSION TO
THIS ITEM, DELEGATIONS CONTINUED FOR SEVERAL DAYS TO
REFER TO SPECIFIC PROGRAMS UNDER REVIEW. UNDP ADMINI-
STRATOR INTRODUCED SUBJECT, FOLLOWED BY ASSISTANT
ADMINISTRATOR FOR PROGRAM, POLICY AND EVALUATION. VIR-
TUALLY ALL THE COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS TOOK THE
FLOOR.

2. THE QUALITY OF THE PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION WAS PRAISED
AND CONTRASTED FAVORABLY TO THE SET OF DOCUMENTS SUB-
MITTED TO THE COUNCIL LAST JANUARY.

3. THERE WAS GENERAL ACCEPTANCE THAT UNDP-SPECIALIZED
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AGENCY RELATIONS HAD IMPROVED DUE IN LARGE MEASURE TO
INITIATIVES OF THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR.

4. TCDC WAS SEEN BY SEVERAL LDC'S AS AN INTEGRAL PART
OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAM PROCESS. THE UK ASKED FOR
PRACTICAL EXAMPLES OF TCDC TO BE REFLECTED IN THE COUNTRY
PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION. KUWAIT SAW TCDC AS A "DYNAMIC

PROCESS." THE UNDP SECRETARIAT HOWEVER RESPONDED
QUERYING WHETHER THE COUNTRY PROGRAM WAS THE APPROPRIATE
INSTRUMENT TO REFLECT TCDC.

5. GOVERNMENT EXECUTION WAS STRESSED BY A NUMBER OF
LDC'S. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT RECIPIENT
COUNTRIES THEMSELVES LED TO PRONOUNCE THEIR READINESS
IN ACCEPTING SUCH RESPONSIBILITY.

6. THE TREND TOWARDS FEWER RESIDENT EXPERTS AND MORE
SHORT-TERM CONSULTANTS WAS NOTED. THERE WAS ALSO
GENERAL PRAISE FOR SMALLER EQUIPMENT COMPONENTS IN
THE COUNTRY PROGRAMS SUBMITTED--THIS CONTRASTED TO THE
DOCUMENTATION PRESENTED LAST JANUARY.

7. THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT WAS HIGH-
LIGHTED IN A LARGE NUMBER OF STATEMENTS (AUSTRALIA,
SWITZERLAND, IRAN, YEMEN, NORWAY, ETC.), EACH CITING
TRENDS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES FAVORING THE PROCESS.

8. THE PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATION TO EMERGE WAS PRESENTED
BY CANADA. REPEATING A THEME THE CANADIAN DELEGATION HAD
DISCUSSED INFORMALLY AT PREVIOUS COUNCIL SESSIONS,
THE CANADIANS FORMALLY TABLED A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH
A PROGRAM COMMITTEE TO SIT ALONGSIDE THE BUDGET AND
FINANCE COMMITTEE. THE PURPOSE WOULD BE TO DEVOTE MORE
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TIME AND ATTENTION TO UNDP PROGRAM ISSUES. THE CANADIAN
DELEGATION SUBSEQUENTLY MODIFIED ITS PROPOSAL AFTER
INDIA AND PAKISTAN QUESTIONED ITS FEASIBILITY. FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS ARE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW.

9. THE QUESTION OF COST-SHARING WAS RECEIVED GENERALLY
FAVORABLY WITH REGARD TO ITS IMPACT ON UNDP ADMINISTRA-
TION. THE BRAZILIANS SUGGESTED THAT THE CURRENT CEILING
ON COST-SHARING BE LIFTED.

10. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS SPOKE ABOUT THE ROAD TRANSPORT
AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA. BURUNDI, SENEGAL
AND SIERRA LEONE ASKED FOR SPECIAL SUPPORT. FRANCE
ENDORSED THE DECADE.

11. ALL OF THE TWELVE COUNTRY PROGRAMS WERE APPROVED BY
THE COUNCIL.

12. THE GLOBAL SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT ALSO WAS APPROVED.
THE DUTCH AND FRG EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO SHARE THEIR
EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA09716
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780265-0659
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780621/aaaaasfs.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2213542
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: COUNTRY AND INTER- COUNTRY PROGRAMMING AND PROJECTS (AGENDA ITEM 16) PART 1 OF 3
TAGS: EAID, UNDP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7a231782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014